Increase in attacks on Income Tax Officers

1670. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the attacks on Income Tax Officers in different parts of the country have substantially increased; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to protect the lives of these officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes sir. All necessary steps are taken for the security of the Income-tax Officials engaged in search, survey and other official duties. Since 'law and order' is a State subject police protection for the security of the Income-tax Officials is provided by the State Governments. Besides, sufficient number of operational vehicles and communication equipments have been provided for ensuring the safety and efficiency of the officials engaged in searches.

Advisory Committee to tone up performance of Indian Bank

1671. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special Advisory Committee will be/has been set up to tone up the performance of the Indian Bank;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(c) whether any report will be submitted to Government in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Indian Bank have reported that with the concurrence of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) an Advisory Committee has been set up for the limited purpose of advising the Board of the Bank in matters relating to finalising one-time settlement.

(b) This Committee comprises a retired High Court Judge as its Chairman, a retired banker and two General Managers (incharge of recovery and rehabilitation) as members.

(c) There is no proposal for this Advisory Committee to submit any special report to the Government.

Amnesty schemes to unearth black money

1672. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a scheme to funnel in black money through amnesty schemes for investment in infrastructure sector and stock market;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) when this scheme is going to be implemented; and

(d) whether a special machinery will be created to ensure proper monitoring and implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the detials of the scheme are contained in Chapter IV (clauses 60 to 77) of the Finance Bill, 1997;

(c) the scheme shall come into force from the date of its notification in the Official Gazette; and

(d) the monitoring and implementation of the scheme will be done by the Income-tax Department and no other special machinery will be set up for this purpose.